

Leviticus 23:26-44 - Thursday, March 18th, 2010

- Tonight, we will complete the twenty-third chapter of Leviticus and with it, this most fascinating study of the seven Feasts of Israel.
- Israel was to celebrate seven Feasts over seven months, as they would paint a complete prophetic picture of the coming Messiah.

REFERENCE	FEAST	FULFILLMENT
(Leviticus 23:5)	Passover	The Crucifixion
(Leviticus 23:6-8)	Unleavened Bread	The Burial
(Leviticus 23:9-14)	First-Fruits	The Resurrection
(Leviticus 23:15-22)	Pentecost	The Church Age
Leviticus 23:23-25)	Trumpets	The Rapture of the Church
(Leviticus 23:26-32)	Day of Atonement	The 2 nd Coming
(Leviticus 23:33-43)	Tabernacles	The Kingdom Age and Heaven

1. THE CRUCIFIXION – “PASSEOVER” (VERSE 5)

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Passover – (One Day) The Crucifixion (Leviticus 23:5)	The “Angel of Death” passed over the Israelites if blood was on the four posts of the door.	Death, the penalty for my sin, is passed over because the blood of the lamb of God was shed for me on the four posts of the cross.

2. THE BURIAL - “UNLEAVENED BREAD” (VERSES 6-8)

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Unleavened Bread –(Seven days) The Burial (Leviticus 23:6-8)	In the exodus from Egypt the Israelites left quickly and didn’t have “leaven” (sin) in the bread.	I leave the old life and die to the old man. Jesus is the bread of new life. Jesus body was the bread to be broken and without sin (leaven).

3. THE RESURRECTION - “FIRST FRUITS” (VERSES 9-14)

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
First-Fruits – (One day) The Resurrection (Leviticus 23:9-14)	The beginning first barley harvest was a wave offering and on the first day of the week.	Christ’s resurrection was the first and the beginning of the first resurrection on the first day of the week, Sunday.

4. THE CHURCH AGE – “PENTECOST” (VERSES 15-22)

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Pentecost – Wheat Harvest (One day) The Church Age (Leviticus 23:15-22)	50 days after leaving Egypt the Jews arrive at Mt. Sinai. With fire they hear the tongue of the Lord. Moses came down with the law and broke the tablets because of their sin and 3,000 people died that day.	50 days after the resurrection the disciples tarried at Mt. Zion. There were tongues of fire that came down. The good news of Lord dying and forgiving the sin of man who broke the law of God was heard. 3,000 people were saved (harvested) that day.

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Pentecost – Wheat Harvest (One day) The Church Age (Leviticus 23:15-22)	Two loaves waved up and down then left to right form a cross. But these two loaves brought together had leaven (sin). Two tablets of law are born to show sin nature.	Two peoples, Jews and Gentiles, because of the cross are brought together both with a sin nature. The law is death, the Lord is life, and the church (bride) is born because the law is fulfilled in Christ.

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Pentecost – (One day) The Church Age (Leviticus 23:15-22)	The first cut in the harvest may not have been sufficient leaving behind enough for the “poor” to glean a second time.	The first birth as a sinner isn’t sufficient leaving me poor and needing the second birth for redemption. Ruth is a beautiful picture of this redemption.

5. THE RAPTURE - “TRUMPETS” (VERSES 23-25)

FEAST	WHAT THIS MEANS	WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME
Trumpets – (Rosh Hashanah). (One day) The Rapture of the Church (Leviticus 23:23-25)	On the first day of the month Tishri on the Jewish ceremonial calendar, the feast of trumpets was held; trumpets were blown to gather together God’s people for a holy convocation, relocation, or confrontation.	The feast of Trumpets is a picture of a holy convocation at the sound of a trumpet for the relocation we call the rapture of the Church (I Thessalonians 4:13-18 and I Corinthians 15:52). A second trumpet is for a holy convocation of Israel’s confrontation for the last days.

26 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 27 "Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. 28 And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29 For any person who is not afflicted in soul on that same day shall be cut off from his people. 30 And any person who does any work on that same day, that person I will destroy from among his people. 31 You shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 32 It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the Ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath."

- This is the sixth of the seven Feasts known as the "Day of Atonement," or Yom Kippur. This is a prophetic picture of the second coming.

6. THE SECOND COMING – "DAY OF ATONEMENT" (VERSES 26-32)

Feast	What This Means	What This Means To Me
Day of Atonement – (One day) The 2nd Coming (Leviticus 23:26-32)	The "High Priest" would go into the Most Holy Place One Day a Year and make atonement for Israel's sins.	Our "High Priest" Jesus Christ will return with us on that day, (the "2 nd Coming) after the 7-year tribulation. All of Israel will be saved.

The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), represents the affliction and salvation of Israel during the "7" year tribulation and the day of the Lord or "Second Coming" after the tribulation. It's the day-of-atonement for Israel who "look upon Him whom they have pierced", repent of their sins, and receive Jesus their Messiah.

Zechariah 12:10-11 10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son. NIV

Romans 11:1-6, 25-27 - 11:1 I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah-how he appealed to God against Israel: 3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me"? 4 And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." 5 So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. 6 And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. 26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. 27 And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins." NIV

33 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD. 35 On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it. 36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the Eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it. 37' These are the feasts of the LORD which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on its day -- 38 besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, besides your gifts, besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings which you give to the LORD. 39' Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the LORD for seven days; on the first day there shall be a sabbath-rest, and on the Eighth day a sabbath-rest. 40 And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. 41 You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD for seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, 43 that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.'" 44 So Moses declared to the children of Israel the feasts of the LORD.

- This completes the seven Feasts with the seventh Feast known as the Feast of Tabernacles, which is also called the Feast of Booths.
- This Feast paints an ever so beautiful prophetic portrait of eternity in how it pictures and points to both the Millennium and Heaven.

7. THE MILLENNIUM & HEAVEN "TABERNACLES" (VERSES 33-44)

Feast	What This Means	What This Means To Me
Tabernacles – (Seven days and One day) The Kingdom Age and Heaven (Leviticus 23:33-43)	The Feast of Tabernacles commemorated God's provision in the wilderness while bringing them into the promised land.	This points to us being brought out of the world (wilderness) into Heaven, the "promised land". God provided this through Jesus (who was probably born on that day in October).

The Feast of Tabernacles (Booths, Tents) was commemorated by staying in little thatched houses made out of mainly palm branches. In the month of October during which time this is celebrated, you can see them next to high rise apartment buildings in Israel. The Jews camp in them to remember God's miraculous provision for their forefathers who slept under the stars in the desert for 40 years before bringing them into the promise-land.

Just as the Israelites were brought into the promise-land after 40 years, so to was Noah (the Jews) brought into a new earth (promise-land), after 40 days and nights of rain. Enoch (the church) was caught up (the rapture) to meet the Lord before the world was judged with the flood. Jesus said that the world would be like it was in the days of Noah, right before the second coming and the world is judged by fire.

Water was an important part of the Feast of Tabernacles. In Old Testament Biblical times, gold pitchers of water were brought from the pool of Siloam to the temple. The Priest would pour out the water over the altar and recite from Isaiah 12:2-3, 2 Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." 3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. It was a symbol of all of the water that God provided out of the rock while in the desert. But the eighth day was a Sabbath, so there was no procession to the pool of Siloam because God had fulfilled His promise by bringing them into the promise-land.

Jesus was the promised one who fulfilled this Feast while in the temple by proclaiming Himself the very fountain of living water in John 7:37-38 37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

REVELATION 21:3-6 3 AND I HEARD A GREAT VOICE OUT OF HEAVEN SAYING, **BEHOLD, THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS WITH MEN**, AND HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, AND THEY SHALL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF SHALL BE WITH THEM, AND BE THEIR GOD. 4 AND GOD SHALL WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS FROM THEIR EYES; AND THERE SHALL BE NO MORE DEATH, NEITHER SORROW, NOR CRYING, NEITHER SHALL THERE BE ANY MORE PAIN: FOR THE FORMER THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY. 5 AND HE THAT SAT UPON THE THRONE SAID, BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. AND HE SAID UNTO ME, WRITE: FOR THESE WORDS ARE TRUE AND FAITHFUL. 6 AND HE SAID UNTO ME, IT IS DONE. I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA, THE BEGINNING AND THE END. **I WILL GIVE UNTO HIM THAT IS ATHIRST OF THE FOUNTAIN OF THE WATER OF LIFE FREELY.**

- I think I would be grossly remiss to not end with an eschatological timeline of how history and prophecy will end in the Biblical timeline.

EVENT	TIMING	EXPLANATION	DURATION
The Rapture	Before the Tribulation	"Born Again" Christians who are waiting and watching, will be taken up to meet Jesus Christ. He will take us to His Father's house as His bride. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52)	Twinkling of an Eye
First Resurrection (See below)	Began when Jesus rose again	A bodily resurrection of those who died "in Christ" are taken up to meet together with us, who are alive at the Rapture. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)	Approx. 2000 years
The Tribulation	After the Rapture	The Anti-Christ confirms an existing but uncertain Mid-East peace agreement, (Daniel 9:27) then commits the abomination of desolation. (Matthew 24:15) God's wrath pours out on the earth, which leads to the battle of Armageddon.	7 Years
The Second Coming	After the Tribulation	The Lord returns to the earth with us His bride. Every eye will see, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. (Revelation 1:7, Matthew 25:31-46)	No Duration Mentioned
The Millennium	After the Second Coming	The Devil is cast in the bottomless pit. Those who don't take the mark are beheaded & will reign with Christ. (Revelation 20:1-4) The rest remain dead until the end of the millennium & don't take part in the first resurrection. (Revelation 20:11-15)	1,000 Years
The Final Battle	After the Millennium	The Devil is loosed, deceives a multitude and gathers them to battle. Fire comes down from God out of heaven and devours them. The Devil is cast into the lake of fire and tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:7-10)	No Duration Mentioned
The Final Judgment	After the Final Battle	At the great white throne judgment, every man is judged. The book of life is open and we are rewarded for those things which are written in it according to our works. We are not part of the white throne judgment. (Revelation 20:11-15)	No Duration Mentioned
The Second Death	After the Final Judgment	Death and hell are cast into the lake of fire, along with anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life. (Revelation 20:14)	For All Eternity
The New Heaven & New Earth	After the Second Death	The new Jerusalem comes down from God out of heaven. God Himself will be with us and will wipe away all tears from our eyes, there will be no more death, sorrow, crying, or pain. (Revelation 21:1)	For All Eternity

Of the First Resurrection, one commentator put it this way: "Jesus declared in John 5:28,29 that there would be two categories of resurrection, a resurrection of life and a resurrection of condemnation. Those who are genuine believers will be a part of the first resurrection and those that are lost will experience the second. It's important to understand that His focus was on the "kind" of resurrection, not the "time" of resurrection. Note the following: The Apostle Paul uses a Greek term in relation to the stages of the first resurrection, "tagma," "each in his own order" (1 Cor. 15:53a) This is a military term frequently used to designate a division or a battalion of soldiers. Paul pictures a military battalion passing by a reviewing stand at different intervals of time and relates this to the first resurrection. There are different stages or battalions that come under the category of the first resurrection: - Christ's resurrection is first, "the firstfruits" of all who follow - Second Battalion: Token number of saints, Matt. 27:51-53 - Third Battalion: The Rapture, Christians, 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51f - Fourth Battalion: Two Witnesses who are martyred, Rev. 11:1-14 - Fifth Battalion: Tribulation saints martyred, Rev.7:9-17 - Sixth Battalion: The Old Testament Saints, Dan. 12:1,2, Isa. 26:19